

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line , as follows:

It has also been known since around 1994 that the brain is able to process sounds more effectively when it receives slightly different input from each of the two ears. This fact has been used to improve audio reproduction of music and for films, i.e., stereo and surround sound vs. monaural sound. This ability has also been used by jet airplane pilots to increase separation when listening to several communication channels simultaneously. The use of special filters for these purposes is known and research has been conducted to determine the filter effect of the head (characterized as Head related Transfer Functions, HRTF=s) with regard to sound from two microphones based on the distance and source; see, HRTF Measurements of a KEMAR Dummy-Head Microphone, Bill Gardner and Keith Martin, MIT Media Lab Perceptual Computing – Technical Report # 280, May, 1984, ~~HTTP://sound.media.mit.edu/KEMAR/hrtfdoc.txt, August 8, 2000~~ which can be found on the website of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. However, to date, no known attempt has been made to use this ability in an electronic stethoscope to separate or transform defined sound components so as to present different features to each of the physician's ears.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line , as follows:

As noted in regard to the prior art, the brain is able to process sounds more effectively when it receives slightly different input from each of the two ears, and this fact has been used to improve audio reproduction of music and for films, i.e., stereo and surround sound vs. monaural sound as well as help jet airplane pilots listen to several communication channels simultaneously by increasing separation via the use of special filters. As also noted, research has been conducted to determine the filter effect of the head (characterized as Head related Transfer Functions, HRTF=s) with regard to sound from two microphones based on distance and source; see, HRTF Measurements of a KEMAR Dummy-Head Microphone, Bill Gardner and Keith Martin, MIT Media Lab Perceptual Computing – Technical Report # 280, May, 1984, ~~HTTP://sound.media.mit.edu/KEMAR/hrtfdoc.txt, August 8, 2000~~ (which is hereby incorporated by reference to the extent that it may be necessary to complete an understanding of this invention) and these HRTF=s can be synthesized by digital filters. With this in mind,

Figure 5 shows a block diagram of an electronic stereo stethoscope in accordance with the present invention in which parts corresponding to those of the stethoscope of Fig. 2 bear the same number and serve the same function, so that they need not be described in detail again. signals picked up from vibration transducer 1, after passage through pre-amplifier 2 and A/D converter 4 are processed by signal processor 10 which contains the filters for synthesizing the appropriate HRTF=s and outputs a separate signal for each ear which is passed through D/A convertor 11 and a headset amplifier 12 to left and right earpieces 14.